

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2043

To require the implementation of a corrective action plan in States in which
child poverty has increased.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 2, 1996

Mr. KERRY introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To require the implementation of a corrective action plan
in States in which child poverty has increased.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. CHILD POVERTY CORRECTIVE ACTION PLANS.**

4 Section 413 of the Social Security Act, as added by
5 the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Rec-
6 onciliation Act of 1996, is amended by adding at the end
7 thereof the following new subsection:

8 “(h) CHILD POVERTY RATES.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days
10 after the date of the enactment of this subsection,

1 and annually thereafter, the chief executive officer of
2 a State shall submit to the Secretary a statement of
3 the child poverty rate in the State as of such date
4 of enactment or the date of such subsequent state-
5 ments. Such subsequent statements shall include the
6 change in such rate from the previous statement, if
7 any.

8 “(2) INCREASE IN RATE.—

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—With respect to a
10 State that submits a statement under para-
11 graph (1) that indicates an increase of 5 per-
12 cent or more in the child poverty rate of the
13 State from the previous statement, the State
14 shall, not later than 90 days after the date of
15 such statement, prepare and submit to the Sec-
16 retary a corrective action plan in accordance
17 with paragraph (3).

18 “(3) CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A corrective action
20 plan submitted under paragraph (2) shall out-
21 line that manner in which the State will reduce
22 the child poverty rate within the State. The
23 plan shall include a description of the actions to
24 be taken by the State under such plan.

“(B) CONSULTATION ABOUT MODIFICATIONS.—During the 60-day period that begins with the date the Secretary receives the corrective action plan of a State under subparagraph (A), the Secretary may consult with the State on modifications to the plan.

“(C) ACCEPTANCE OF PLAN.— A corrective action plan submitted by a State in accordance with subparagraph (A) is deemed to be accepted by the Secretary if the Secretary does not accept or reject the plan during 60-day period that begins on the date the plan is submitted.

“(4) COMPLIANCE WITH PLAN.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A State that submits a corrective action plan under this subsection shall continue to implement such plan until such time as the Secretary makes the determination described in subparagraph (B).

“(B) DETERMINATION.—A determination described in this subparagraph is a determination that the child poverty rate for the State involved has fallen to, and not exceeded for a period of 2-consecutive years, a rate that is not greater than the rate contained in the most re-

1 cent statement submitted by the State under
2 paragraph (1) which did not trigger the applica-
3 tion of paragraph (2).

4 “(5) METHODOLOGY.—The Secretary shall pro-
5 mulgate regulations establishing the methodology by
6 which a State shall determine the child poverty rate
7 within such State. Such methodology shall, with re-
8 spect to a State, take into account factors including
9 the number of children who receive free or reduced-
10 price lunches, the number of food stamp households,
11 and the county by county estimates of children in
12 poverty as determined by the Census Bureau.”.

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